

## **Playground and Playing Fields**

The Parish Council has been asked to clarify its position regarding the playground and playing fields.

The Parish Council advises that it is following and will continue to follow Public Health England and Government guidance.

At the moment there is no guidance to close such facilities, people are being encouraged to exercise (including children) - so long as not needing isolation - and indeed similar facilities provided by neighbouring larger authorities are still open.

We ask residents however to consider that Government guidance is:

“Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.”

This would imply not allowing children to congregate as groups at the playground and to try to keep reasonable distances between them as they play.

World Health Organisation advice is that Coronavirus can remain present on surfaces for several days. This is particularly relevant to equipment that children hold onto, so it would appear appropriate to clean equipment before use, and thoroughly wash hands afterwards.

Ultimately we ask parents to take a responsible approach. It would be impossible for the Parish Council to monitor use and regularly clean equipment, so please bear in mind that NO cleaning of any equipment or surfaces is being undertaken. This all accords with our insurer's advice.

If Government advice changes, the Parish Council will amend its approach as applicable.